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message charges pg 15

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Thursday, September 23, 2010

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Highly commended and Runner-up AAA N.V. receives high award from international airlines forum

ORANJESTAD - Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) has received confirmation on the 21st of September, that it was awarded the prize for Runner-up for the Airport Marketing Award 2010 in the category 'the Americas.' The gala awards ceremony, where the awards were handed out, took place during the Annual World Route Development Forum in Vancouver, Canada. Representatives of AAA that attended this Forum and accepted the award were Mrs. Peggy Croes, Head Airline Marketing and Mrs. Barbara Brown, Business Unit Manager Terminal.

OAG awards airports in geographical categories, irrespective of the amount of passengers that the airport receives per year. Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix shared the Highly Recommended Distinction together with Dallas- Fort Worth. As such Aruba Airport ended second among all North, Central and South American airports.

This result is outstanding and important for AAA as the award is given based on input and comments from the airlines themselves. It is the airlines who shortlist the nominees and it is the airlines who select the winners. The category in which

the Aruba Airport Authority achieved the position of Runner Up consists of all the Americas, therefore all the airports in North, Central and South America, including the Caribbean! It is not the first time that the Aruba Airport Authority obtains official credit from the airline industry: in 2006 and 2009 AAA was already awarded by OAG, while in the beginning of this year AAA was selected as the winner in the regional conference of Central America and the Caribbean.

Peter Steinmetz, Managing Director AAA, expressed profound words of satisfaction with this achievement: "This is the fifth time that we have been nominated in six years and it is truly amazing that AAA, as such a small airport company, can compete with the major airports in the entire American Continent in this category. It's great to know that we beat 99.9% of all other American airports! These continuous nominations and awards are proof that our airline marketing strategy works out well for us. This recognition by airlines is a confirmation that if airlines have to make a choice from comparable alternatives, they will likely decide in Aruba's advantage."

Aruba Aloe Factory named among one of the top great Travel 'Must See' around the world



Discovering a discount or two on vacation is a surefire way to put a smile on your face. But tracking down a must-see destination that doesn't cost a dime, well, it doesn't get much more satisfying than that. Darren Frei, editorial director of ShermansTravel.com, shares with Sarah Sekula for USA TODAY favorite something-for-nothing excursions.

Aruba's Aruba Aloe Factory was also named on this

list.

Listed were the following destinations: High Line, N.Y.

* U.S. National Parks, Throughout the USA

* Smithsonian Museums, Washington

* The Getty Center, Los Angeles

* **Aruba Aloe Factory, Oranjestad, Aruba**

"The island's native aloe plant can be found all over the island," Frei says. "Take a tour through the state-of-the-

art Aruba Aloe Factory, and you'll see the production process firsthand, from the harvesting of raw aloe vera leaves to the finished product. Informative tour guides explain the restorative and soothing qualities of the aloe plant and its many uses, the most popular of which, at least among tourists, is applying it to sunburned skin." arubaaloe.com

Continued on pg 5

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UN launches 40-billion-dollar drive for women and children

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon announced yesterday a 40-billion-dollar drive to improve the health of women and children, which he said would save millions of lives around the world.

Governments, philanthropists and private groups pledged the cash, giving a spectacular end to the UN summit on eliminating poverty, a campaign that has been badly battered by the international financial crisis.

"We know what works to save women's and children's lives, and we know that women and children are critical to all of the Millennium Development Goals," Ban said.

"Today we are witnessing the kind of leadership we have long needed," he declared ahead of the close of the summit when US President Barack Obama will be the keynote speaker.

Ban estimated that his Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health could save

16 million lives by 2015.

Of the eight key development targets set a decade ago, cutting deaths of women during pregnancy and childbirth and those of children younger than five have seen the least progress.

Countries from Afghanistan to Zambia -- but also including Australia, Britain, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia and the United States - have contributed to the drive.

The foundations of the world's richest men, Mexican tycoon Carlos Slim and Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates, were among the contributors. They joined rights groups such as Amnesty International and multinationals such as LG Electronics and Pfizer.

"Never have so many come together to save the lives of women and children," commented Norway's Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, whose country is one of the world's top aid donors.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said investing in women and children's health

was "an issue that deserves to be at the top of our development agenda."

A UN statement said the deaths of more than 15 million children under five would be saved between 2011 and 2015 through the initiative.

It added that it would prevent 33 million unwanted pregnancies and 740,000 women from dying from complications relating to pregnancy and childbirth. It estimated that 120 million children would be protected from pneumonia.

It was unclear how much of the 40 billion dollars announced is a new spending commitment and reaction to the announcement was mixed from aid groups.

"We have learned to be skeptical of big announcements at summits, and we question how much of this money can possibly be new," said Emma Seery, a spokeswoman for Oxfam.

Seery said 88 billion dollars was needed up to 2015 to meet child and maternal health goals.

Concern for French couple missing in Bolivia

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AFP) - The French embassy yesterday voiced concern for a couple who disappeared three weeks ago during a festival in a Bolivian border village leaving behind a three-year-old boy.

Jeremie Bellanger, 25, and his girlfriend Fannie Blanco, 23, have not been seen since they went to Guayaramerin, close to the Brazilian border, near a lawless area known for drug-trafficking and high crime rates.

"We are doing all we can can and stepping up our efforts," said France's ambassador Antoine Grassin, who said the disappearances were worrying.

The couple, originally from western France, had traveled to

the festival, some 800 kilometers (500 miles) northeast of the Bolivian capital La Paz, with their landlord and Blanco's three-year-old son.

The landlord later returned with the child, leaving the couple behind. But the pair have not been seen since, and relatives are worried they may have been kidnapped.

The boy is being cared for at the French embassy and will be returned to his relatives in the coming days, the ambassador said.

Police are continuing their inquiries and the embassy today will launch a series of adverts in the Bolivian press appealing for information as to the couple's whereabouts.

Asia struggles to cope as storms spread destruction

BEIJING, China (AFP) - Severe storms and floods sweeping Asia this week have killed dozens of people and displaced hundreds of thousands across large swathes of the continent, with more storms forecast.

Record monsoon rain and the onslaught of tropical storm Fanapi wreaked devastation from South Korea to India, triggering landslides, washing away thousands of homes and tearing through roads and railways.

Thirty-three people have died and 42 are missing after Fanapi churned through southern China, while 65 people were killed in monsoon rain in India and 100,000 displaced after a lake burst in southern Pakistan.

Fanapi made landfall on mainland China on Monday,

one day after slamming Taiwan with heavy rain, killing two people and leaving more than 100 injured on the island.

All of China's deaths occurred in the southern province of Guangdong, which saw its worst rain in a century, the official Xinhua news agency said yesterday. Five died after a dam burst while two were killed when their house collapsed, the report said. Of the missing, 25 disappeared in a rain-triggered mudslide.

Over 78,000 people in Guangdong have been evacuated due to the storm, which destroyed some 1,400 homes, local authorities said, according to Xinhua.

Initial direct economic losses amounted to two billion yuan (300 million dollars), Xinhua said.

Growing threat to US from homegrown extremists

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States faces a "spike" in the threat from homegrown extremists who are inspired by Al-Qaeda and are increasingly difficult to detect, top US officials said yesterday.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano warned senators that "a new and changing facet of the terrorist threat comes from homegrown terrorists, by which I mean US persons who are radicalized here and receive terrorist training either here or elsewhere."

She said that the threat "is evolving in several ways that make it more difficult for law enforcement or the intelligence community to detect and disrupt plots."

At the same Senate hearing, Michael Leiter, head of the National Counterterrorism Center, described a "spike in homegrown violent extremist activity" that was enabled by extremist groups abroad using the Internet.

Napolitano also confirmed that terror groups posed a heightened threat to Western

countries, including Europe, citing stepped up "activity."

Asked about warnings in Europe of a growing danger, she said: "Suffice it to say, we are all seeing increased activity by a more diverse set of groups and a more diverse set of threats."

The threat, which came mostly from Islamist networks, was "directed at the West generally," she said, adding that she would be discussing the issue with her European counterparts at a meeting next week.

Highlighting a surge in attempted attacks or plots by US nationals, top security officials cited the November shooting rampage last year at Fort Hood in Texas -- blamed on a Muslim army officer -- and the attempted bombing in May of New York's Time Square.

FBI director Robert Mueller said the Al-Qaeda network had shifted the focus of its recruiting efforts since 2006 on US citizens or residents instead of volunteers from the Middle East or South Asia.

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RBTT strengthens support of the arts through sponsorship of the trinidad & tobago film festival



Representatives of the key agencies supporting the trinidad & tobago film festival pose for a photo following the launch of TTFF 2010. They are from left: John Arnold, Event Coordinator, Division of Tourism & Transportation, Tobago House of Assembly; Carla Foderingham, CEO of the Trinidad and Tobago Film Company; Ryan Khan, Film-maker; Darryl White, Head of Investment Banking, RBTT; Cassian Gyan, Marketing Manager, Columbus Communications Trinidad Ltd, (Flow); and Bruce Paddington, Founder and Director of the TTFF

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad & Tobago — RBTT Financial Group has become a supporting sponsor of the 2010 trinidad+ tobago film festival (ttff), making a further contribution to development of the arts in the Caribbean region.

The ttff is an annual celebration of the best in filmmaking from the Caribbean, the Caribbean Diaspora and Latin American countries in the Caribbean basin. This year's Festival takes place from September 22 to October 5 at venues across, when films from and about the Caribbean will be screened in Trinidad and Tobago.

Curaçao-born film-maker, German Gruber will screen his dramatic short film "The Legend of Buchi Fil" at the Festival. The film is based on a poem by acclaimed Curaçao poet Pierre Lauffer.

Through sponsorship valued at approximately US\$ 23,300, RBTT has added a new dimension to the festival, with the introduction of the first ever Youth Film Concept Competition. This is an initiative aimed at getting young people interested in the world of filmmaking by inviting them to submit concepts for a series of short promotional films for the ttff, based on the Festival's 2010 theme, "You're in Focus."

"We hope the festival and the Youth Film Concept Competition will ignite great

interest in film and encourage more young people in Trinidad & Tobago and the Caribbean to explore this exciting medium," said Darryl White, Head of Investment Banking, RBTT Financial Group at the launch of ttff 2010 on August 26.

RBTT's sponsorship of the film festival and the youth film competition is particularly appropriate, being an area of focus of Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), its Canadian parent company. RBC is a major sponsor of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), the largest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world.

As part of their involvement in TIFF, RBC also sponsors the Emerging Filmmakers Competition, which provides up-and-coming filmmakers with a priceless opportunity to showcase their work. In 2009, more than CAD\$900,000 was invested in apprenticeship, internship and artist recognition programmes across Canada.

While RBTT's involvement in film is new, it has a well-established tradition of supporting the arts in the region.

In the Dutch Caribbean, this includes supporting the local culture through many cultural festivals and also supporting art expositions.

Caribbean low pressure area has good chance of developing in the next 2 days

MIAMI, Florida -- The National Hurricane Center is issuing advisories on Tropical Storm Lisa, located about 450 miles west-northwest of the Cape Verde Islands.

Also, surface observations, satellite images, and radar data from Curaçao indicate that an area of low pressure has formed over the south-central Caribbean Sea.

This system has the potential to become a tropical depression today as it moves westward at 15 mph toward

the western Caribbean. There is a high chance, 60 percent, of this system becoming a tropical cyclone during the next 48 hours.

Besides-- of additional development, the system brought squalls over the Netherlands Antilles, and the northern coasts of western Venezuela and Colombia yesterday.

This system also has the potential to produce heavy rains over portions of Central America in a couple days.

Copy of the publication "More attention for care" dedicated to dr Mac Kibbelaar (rip) handed to Minister Visser



Recently, dr. Paula Kibelaar and dr. Ashley Duits paid a courtesy visit to Aruba Minister of Public Health and Sports, Richard Visser. On the occasion they handed the minister a copy of a commemorative book of dr. Mac Kibbelaar. The informative event was organized for Foundation M.A.C. by Recommendation Committee member, Mrs. Alice van Romondt.

M.A.C. Foundation investigates and publishes different articles related to public health on the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba

Dr. Marc Kibelaar (r.i.p.) worked for a few years on Aruba to privatise and optimize the island's Laboratory Department, this on the invi-

tation of ex minister of Public Health, dr. Ike Posner. Unfortunately, dr. Kibelaar got sick and died in 1991 before finishing his task. He is one of the few specialists to live and work in all the countries of the Dutch Kingdom.

Dr. Kibelaar was an academic with a passion to create a better care for everyone. At present, his daughter dr. Paula Kibelaar works at the University of Aruba.

The publication consists of 20 articles concerning various aspects of public health. Minister Visser and Dr. Posner expressed their gratitude for this initiative and the wish for M.A.C. Foundation to come forward with more of this type of investigations and publications in the near

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PricewaterhouseCoopers introduces new branding initiative

New brand simplifies name, emphasises value creation and relationships



ORANJESTAD – PricewaterhouseCoopers has refreshed its branding in order to strengthen, and modernise how it represents its worldwide network to its clients, its people and the communities in which it operates. The new branding includes a simplified logo consisting of the initials "pwc" in lower-case type.

In practice, the initials "PwC" have been used interchangeably with "PricewaterhouseCoopers" both within and outside the organisation since its formation in 1998. This formal shortening of the brand name will provide consistency and ease of use for PwC firms around the world. "PricewaterhouseCoopers" remains the full name of the global organisation for legal purposes, and will be the name used by PwC firms to sign company audits.

The new logo was developed after consultation with PwC's clients, partners and employees and is designed to be easier to use and better suited to digital and online use. "Underlying the visual ele-

ments is what the PwC brand really stands for -- how we are viewed by our clients, our people and our stakeholders. Beyond our capabilities and experience, we want PwC to be known for building great relationships with clients that help them create the value they're looking for. This means that we consider our new brand more than just a change of name" said Cees Rokx, Territory Senior Partner of PwC Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

The new brand went live on September 20, when PwC launched its redesigned websites in the 151 countries where PwC is active with more than 160,000 people.

About PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers Netherlands Antilles and Aruba dates back 70 years and has developed into an organization of more than 160 people dedicated to our clients out of our offices in Curacao, Aruba, St. Maarten and Bonaire.

Aruba Airport Authority hosts a "Quality Leadership Session"

With guest speaker Patricia Sciarappa of the Florida Sterling Council



Patricia Sciarappa with Hendrick Croes of AAA and special guests

On Tuesday, September 21, the Aruba Airport Authority, (AAA) hosted a day dedicated to performance excellence in the workplace at the Renaissance Convention Center. AAA conducted the training sessions not only for their management staff, but also welcomed supervisors from the various airlines which maintain airlift to Aruba, as well as a few special guests, such as executives of the Aruba Tourism Authority, ATA.

Facilitators for the workshop were Mrs. Sanju Luidens-Daryanani, Senior Tourism Advisor of the Minister of Tourism, Mrs. Helen Guda of Aruba Learning and Keynote Speaker Mrs. Patricia Sciarappa of the Florida Sterling Council, a private company categorized under Quality Assurance Consultant located in Tallahassee, FL.

Florida Governor Charlie Crist, endorses the Sterling Management System to evaluate the recipients of the annual Governor's Sterling Award, which recognizes high performing, high-integrity ethical organizations as role models in his state. He considers their system as one of the "most comprehensive ways for any organization to access and improve performance to drive excellent result." This system has been adopted in Florida by manufacturing, service health care, education and public sector organizations.

Veteran facilitator Patricia Sciarappa explained that "educated consumers have higher expectations and we have to meet them. Not only has the global economy contributed to that, but as more and more en-



trepreneurs create competition, so those that offer continuously offer excellent produce, service and price are going to be the ones that sustain. If you don't you can't compete. Customers are always looking for value."

"This mentality extends to the workforce," she continued. "No one is going to hire anyone to do an "average" job. The employer makes the decision to hire a person because they believe they will do a great job in the position. This needs to be the expectation. If

we are doing that, and not getting the results we need, than we have to go back and look at the process and how to change the process to get better and different results."

The day's session was based on the 2011 Sterling Criteria for performance excellence, and exhaustively thorough guide to every aspect of customer satisfaction. The day consisted of lectures and participative exercises, which the attendees found "enlightening and educational."

Aruba Aloe Factory named.....

continued from page 1

* Tijuca National Park, Rio de Janeiro

* Lunchtime Concerts at Concertgebouw and Muziektheater, Amsterdam

* Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago

* British Museum, London

* Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, Vancouver, British Columbia.

When you pass by the Aruba Aloe fields and its modern factory at Hato, it's hard to imagine that the same fields were already in use 160 years ago.

Where nowadays a modern factory shines and produces a large collection of Aloe products that are being exported all over the world, in 1890 farmers carefully planted the first Aloe Vera plants. Until today Aruba Aloe Balm NV has continued to cultivate the wonder plant and the dedicated field workers are working hard every day to keep the plants in excellent condition.

It's not a surprise that the Aloe from Aruba is called 'the World's Finest Aloe™'. Each Aruba Aloe product contains 100% pure Aruba Aloe Vera gel, which is freshly harvested and processed to give all products a unique moisturizing effect.

This month, Aruba Aloe Balm NV introduces a spe-

cial Reduced Fee of USD \$3,- for the Aruba Aloe Museum and Factory tour, which gives you an inside look into the production process of the Aruba Aloe products and you will learn all about the 160-year old history of Aloe on Aruba. All visitors who pay the entrance fee, will receive a coupon* of USD \$3,- which they can use towards a purchase of any of the Aruba Aloe products in the Aruba Aloe store at the factory.

A good reason to visit the Aruba Aloe Museum and Factory this week and bring home one of the few products that are truly made on Aruba.


Tours are suitable for all ages and can be given in English, Spanish, Dutch and Papiamentu.

Tour hours are from **Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.**

The tour duration is about 25 minutes.

Aruba Aloe Balm N.V. is located near hotel area at Pitastraat 115, Hato (opposite the EPB school at Hato). For more information call 588-3222

* The coupon has no cash value and can only be used for the purchase of Aruba Aloe products on the day of the tour and only at the store located at the factory in Hato.



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Leatherback season 2010 over



Picture of Leatherback hatchling courtesy of Greg Peterson

The last leatherback nests have hatched. The little hatchlings have crawled into the ocean to start their journey of survival. At Eagle Beach the 34 nests have produced more than 1600 hatchlings.

It takes a very long time... 20 till 25 years before a small number of these hatch-

lings will reach maturity. Finally females will return to their native beach to lay eggs.

What need to be done to protect Eagle Beach and conserve it as a sea turtle nesting habitat suitable in 2035 and beyond.

Volunteers of Turtugaruba did the monitoring in 2010. Security guards, resort

employees, police, visibility team and visitors of the beach who did report turtle activities to the turtle hotline – 5929393, thank you so much!

Also a big 'thank you' goes to Aruba's Department of Public Works for the use of the barricades to protect the nesting sites. Tourists appreciate the turtle nests as an amenity and if they witness the hatching it may become the highlight of their vacation. They truly believe the abbreviation DOW (Dienst Openbare Werken = Department of Public Works) on the red-white barricades means "Department of Wildlife."

During 2010 some other beaches like Dos Playa, Andicuri, Daimari en Boca Grandi. were visited by Leatherback Sea Turtles for nesting.

The next nesting season for this species starts March 2011.

Jodie Foster: I won't "abandon" Mel Gibson

LOS ANGELES, California – Jodie Foster has once again come to the defense of her close friend Mel Gibson.

Despite the release of angry voicemails Gibson allegedly left the mother of his 8-month-old daughter, Foster told More magazine that he's the "easiest, nicest person I've ever worked with... The second I met him, I said, 'I will love this man for the rest of my life.'"

Foster, co-starred with Gibson in the 1994 film "Maverick," and recently reunited with him for "The Beaver," which she also directed. The film does not have a release date.

"When you love a friend, you don't abandon them when they are struggling," Foster told the magazine. "Of course, Mel is an undeniably gifted actor and director, and 'The Beaver' is one of his



Jodie Foster

most powerful and moving performances. But more importantly, he is and has been a true and loyal friend. I hope I can help him get through this dark moment."

Schedule for the week of:
Sep 23 - Sep 29

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matinee: 12:00 - 3:00
late show: 11:30

NEW

R

THE EXPENDABLES

daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:15
matinee: 1:30
late show: 11:45

NEW

PG-13

MACHETE

daily: 6:15 - 9:00
matinee: 1:15 - 3:45
late show: 11:30

R

RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE 3D

daily: 7:15 - 9:30
matinee: 12:00
late show: 11:30

R

EASY A

daily: 4:15 - 6:30 - 8:45
matinee: 12:00 - 2:15
late show: 11:00

PG-13

AVATAR SPECIAL EDITION 3D

daily: 12:00 - 3:45
matinee: 12:00 - 3:45
late show: 11:30

PG-13

PIRANHA 3D

daily: 6:45 - 9:00
matinee: 11:15
late show: 11:15

R

CATS & DOGS GALORE 3D

daily: 4:30
matinee: 12:15 - 2:30
late show: 11:30

PG

AT PASEO HERENCIA

WALL STREET: MONEY NEVER SLEEPS

daily: 5:15 - 8:30
matinee: 2:00
late show: 11:30

NEW

PG-13

THE TOWN

daily: 5:00 - 8:00
matinee: 2:00
late show: 11:00

NEW

R

AVATAR SPECIAL EDITION 3D

daily: 12:00 - 3:45
matinee: 12:00 - 3:45
late show: 11:30

PG-13

TAKERS

daily: 6:30 - 9:00
matinee: 11:30
late show: 11:30

PG-13

PIRANHA 3D

daily: 7:15 - 9:30
matinee: 11:45
late show: 11:30

R

LOTTERY TICKET

daily: 5:00
matinee: 12:00 - 2:30
late show: 11:30

PG-13

RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE 3D

daily: 7:15 - 9:30
matinee: 12:00
late show: 11:30

R

DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS

daily: 1:00 - 3:45
matinee: 1:00 - 3:45
late show: 11:30

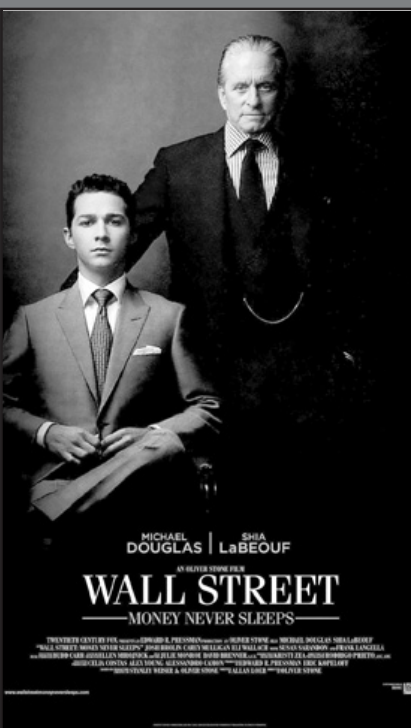
PG-13

THE AMERICAN

daily: 6:15 - 8:45
matinee: 1:15 - 3:45
late show: 11:15

R

WALL STREET: MONEY NEVER SLEEPS (DRAMA)



EMERGING FROM A LENGTHY PRISON STINT, GORDON GEKKO FINDS HIMSELF ON THE OUTSIDE OF A WORLD HE ONCE DOMINATED. LOOKING TO REPAIR HIS DAMAGED RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS DAUGHTER, GEKKO FORMS AN ALLIANCE WITH HER FIANCE JACOB, AND JACOB BEGINS TO SEE HIM AS A FATHER FIGURE. BUT JACOB LEARNS THE HARD WAY THAT GEKKO -- STILL A MASTER MANIPULATOR AND PLAYER -- IS AFTER SOMETHING VERY DIFFERENT FROM REDEMPTION.

Sci-Tech

UN telecoms agency:

Superfast mobile 3G networks boom

GENEVA (AFP) – Superfast third generation (3G) mobile phone networks have expanded nearly tenfold in four years, outstripping fixed line broadband, the UN's telecoms agency said on Wednesday.

The International Telecommunications Union predicted that 3G -- which allows users to watch TV and access the Internet from their phones -- would exceed 900 million subscriptions worldwide by the end of this year as the pace of expansion continued to accelerate.

At the beginning of 2010, 3G capacity could accommodate 667 million subscriptions worldwide, compared to 73 million four years earlier, the ITU said in a statistics survey.

"While these aren't all necessarily active subscriptions, the growing number highlights the vast potential wireless technologies hold," it added.

"ITU has set a clear target by recommending that at least half the world's people have access to broadband by 2015."

Over the same period, global fixed line broadband subscriptions rose from 216 million to 479 million.

Third generation now accounts for 14 percent of all mobile telecoms subscriptions compared to three percent in 2006.

But poor nations appear to be left out, as penetration rates for fixed or mobile broadband remain very low in developing countries, just above three percent of inhabitants, according to the ITU.

The fixed broadband figure is barely higher than the agency's estimate three years ago.

"Tremendous achievements have been made over the past five years in bringing broadband access to millions of people around the world -- but much more needs to be done," the ITU said.

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Swiss solar plane completes flight across Switzerland



Experimental aircraft "Solar Impulse" takes off with pilot Andre Borschberg onboard from Payerne's Swiss airbase on July 2010. Solar Impulse flew across the country Wednesday, in a new achievement following its historic 24-hour flight

GENEVA (AFP) – Switzerland's sun-powered plane Solar Impulse flew across the country Wednesday, in a new achievement following its historic 24-hour flight.

Air traffic was temporarily halted at Zurich international airport as Solar Impulse touched down at the end of its journey at an altitude of 150 to 300 metres (500 to 1,000 feet), and a speed of about 50 kilometres (30 miles) per hour, a spokeswoman said.

"This is a training for the team, for the airport" and air traffic controllers, said Bertrand Piccard, the Swiss adventurer who masterminded the project.

"We wanted to show that we would not pose a major disturbance to the airport's

17-year-old causes Twitter chaos

SYDNEY (AFP) – A 17-year-old Australian schoolboy said on Wednesday he unwittingly caused a massive hacker attack on Twitter which sent users to Japanese porn sites and took out the White House press secretary's feed.

Pearce Delphin, whose Twitter name is @zzap, admitted exposing a security flaw which was then pounced upon by hackers, affecting thousands of users and causing havoc on the microblogging site for about five hours.

Delphin, who lives with his parents in Melbourne, said he tweeted a piece of

activities," he added.

The plane remained for 45 minutes on the runway at Zurich, before taking off again on its return trip of some 270 kilometres (170 miles) to the military air base of Payerne in the west of the country.

With a wingspan that matches the Airbus A340 airliner, the plane is covered with an array of 12,000 solar cells and powered by four small electric motors.

In July it made history by flying around the clock on the sun's energy alone, using 14 hours of sunshine to power its engines and charge its batteries for the night.

It is expected to conduct its first international flights next year, before undertaking a world tour in 2013 or 2014.

"mouseover" JavaScript code which brings up a pop-up window when the user hovers their cursor over the message.

But the idea was soon taken up by hackers who tweaked the code to redirect users to pornographic sites and create "worm" tweets that replicated every time they were read.

"I did it merely to see if it could be done ... that JavaScript really could be executed within a tweet," Delphin told AFP via email.

"At the time of posting the tweet, I had no idea it was going to take off how it did. I just hadn't even considered it."



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US approves first oral pill for multiple sclerosis

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The US Food and Drug Administration announced Wednesday it has approved the first oral drug to treat the most common form of multiple sclerosis (MS).

Gilenya, or fingolimod, is the first in a new class of medications that help block certain blood cells from migrating to the brain and spinal cord, which could help reduce the severity of MS in patients with relapsing forms of the disease, according to the FDA.

The approval is considered a valuable step forward for MS patients due to the frequent needle injections needed for treatment of the complex neurological condition. Some 2.5 million people are affected worldwide, including 400,000 in the United States.

"Gilenya is the first oral drug that can slow the progression of disability and reduce the frequency and severity of symptoms in MS, offering patients an alternative to currently available injectable therapies," Russell

Katz, director of the neurology products at the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said in a statement.

MS can be unpredictable, with symptoms varying dramatically from one person to another. They can be mild, such as numbness in limbs,

or severe, including paralysis and blindness.

The FDA said Gilenya, produced by Swiss pharmaceutical giant Novartis, carries a risk of side effects, including a decrease in heart rate for new users of the drug, as well as headache, flu, diarrhea and back pain.

TIP: Take Care of Hemorrhoids



Hemorrhoids occur when rectal veins become swollen, itchy, painful and tender, often from straining to move the bowels.

The American Gastroenterological Association says the following options may help control hemorrhoids:

- * Add more fiber to your diet in the form of fruits, vegetables and whole grains.
- * Drink plenty of liquids each day.

- * Use a stool softener or fiber supplement.

- * Soothe with a bath, cold pack or bed rest.
- * Wipe gently with a moist tissue after a bowel movement.

If symptoms continue, visit your doctor, the association advises.

Study: Dancing in heels puts toes under extreme pressure



Wearing high heels while dancing may add an air of gracefulness to a woman's moves, but heels also place a great deal of extra pressure on a dancer's toes, scientists say.

British and Chinese researchers measured the forces exerted on the soles of the feet of six professional dancers. They found that when the study participants danced in their bare feet, the force was spread evenly between heel and toe. Dancing in high heels, however, resulted in more force being transferred to the front of the foot.

The study findings are published in the latest issue of the International Journal of Experimental and Computational Biomechanics.

Dancing in 10-centimeter high heels (about 4 inches) can lead to pressures three times that of the atmosphere being applied to the toes, according to Yaodong Gu, of the Liverpool John Moores University in the United Kingdom, and colleagues.

This increased pressure on the front of the foot can lead to discomfort and a painful condition called plantar fasciitis over an extended period of time, the researchers said. The findings may help improve the design of dance shoes with high heels, the study authors suggested.

"Most published studies have been focused on the effects of high-heeled shoes on normal walking, while research on more intensive locomotion such as dancing is very limited," the researchers pointed out in a news release from the journal's publisher.

Discover the Treasures Across the Bridge

Balashi
Pos Chiquito
Savaneta
Cura Cabai
San Nicolas



View of the Spaan Lagoen



The ruins of the gold smelter next to the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon) and the Franse Pas (Frenchman's Pas)



Boca grande kitespot in San Nicolas

Crossing the Balashi Bridge to San Nicolas, on the west coast, you will find the Spaans Lagoen (Spanish Lagoon).

The Spaans Lagoen is a small bay within the two km long and up to five hundred meters wide. By the tidal force has created a special ecosystem: a wetlands (wetlands). Wetlands are areas and between rural areas and wetlands have high biodiversity. Therefore, the inner bay of great importance for waterfowl and is also an important nursery for reef fish and crustaceans.

The Spaans Lagoen area flows into Savaneta is a fishing village in southeastern Aruba. Home to the oldest surviving home in Aruba, it is the

oldest town on that island and former capital. It was where the Dutch first settled after they recaptured it in 1816. It is said that Savaneta name became during the Spanish colonization in 1840. Savaneta means Sabana chikito (small savannah).

Heading east to San Nicolas you will encounter Cura Cabai located along the west coast of the island.

Driving further you will find Aruba's second largest city, San Nicolas, with the majority of residents originally hailing from the British Caribbean to work in the Lago oil refinery.

San Nicolas was named after a man who owned of a

big piece of land there. This man was named Nicolaas van der Biest. In the early days owners of big piece of land are addressed by "Shon" with the first name after. So the people used to call him Shon Nicolaas. That later turned into San Nicolas. Some stories indicate that the Spanish influence had something to do with this.

Following east you will find Seroe Colorado. Seroe Colorado translates to "colorful hill." The name of the place refers to the 30 meters high of pure limestone at the endpoint in the east of Aruba. The hill got its name due to the brown yellowish color of the limestone.



Mangel Halto in Savaneta



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Aruba Prime Minister Mike Eman invited as a guest at Al Gore's residence

Al Gore expresses his enthusiasm to function as the key note speaker at the 'Our future with Green Energy' conference on Aruba

Next week, Aruba will be hosting an international conference on alternative energy called "Our future with Green Energy." Key note speaker of the conference is former U.S. Vice President Albert Arnold "Al" Gore, Jr. With this in mind Mr. Al Gore invited Minister Eman for a meeting at his residence in Nashville, Tennessee, to discuss his visit upcoming visit to our island and some other topics of common interest. Mr. Gore will give a lecture on the first day of the conference, September 29.

Mr. Gore is well-known for his involvement with environmental issues. He did different profound studies on the harmful impact of fossil fuel on our environment. These studies showed the necessity to gradually change from our dependency of oil to alternative energy.

According to Minister Eman, Mr. Gore was very interested to know more of



Aruba's beaches, and their height locations. This is a very important aspect to keep in mind for the future. He was also very interested to know about our commitment to establish a technology institute for studies and investigations in the field of alternative energy and the effects of temperature changes in the world on Aruba. Mr. Gore is an expert in this field and his participation will surely give credibility to the conference.

Minister Eman proudly informed Mr. Gore that 20% of Aruba's energy is generated by wind mills, something Mr. Gore was very impressed with. He was also impressed by the plans presented by Minister Eman on the use of solar energy and deep sea water cooling.

Mr. Gore will arrive on Aruba September 29 for a two-day visit.

For more information on the conference readers may visit the www.greenaruba.org



COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

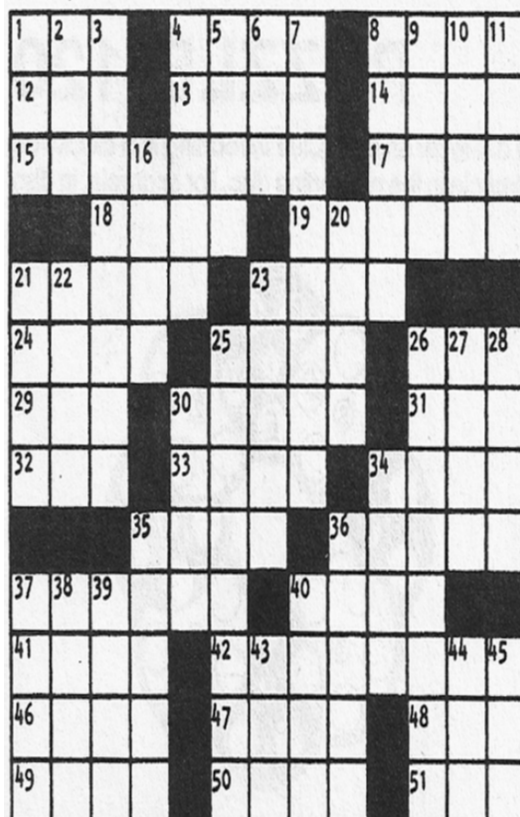


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ACROSS

1. Winner's trophy
4. Storage building
8. Stalk
12. Employ
13. Salary
14. Give a darn
15. Pieces of jewelry
17. Flirtatious look
18. Snake's tooth
19. Small room
21. Feel one's way
23. Snare
24. Dory propellers



25. ___ Marian
26. Water barrier
29. Chair part
30. Leisure activity
31. Compass point: abbr.
32. ___ Moines
33. Competent
34. Native of Edinburgh
35. Ascend
36. Glistened
37. Gobi, e.g.
40. Practice boxing
41. Brainstorm
42. Educated guess
46. Repair
47. Destroy
48. Also
49. Terminates
50. Withered
51. White-tailed eagle
6. Omelet ingredient
7. Paint a verbal picture
8. Exclusive news story
9. Labels
10. ___ Stanley Gardner
11. Encounter
16. Tapping sounds
20. Gentlewoman
21. Prod
22. Unusual
23. Arthur's was round
25. Professional hoods
26. Embellish
27. Soon
28. Dole (out)
30. '60s rock musical
34. Imitation
35. Peruses
36. Backbone
37. Thin coin
38. Paradise
39. Mail
40. Agitate
43. Take to court
44. Craggy hill
45. Vast age

DOWN

1. Billiard stick
2. Uncle Sam's monogram
3. Puts on a show
4. Hogs
5. Suspend



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 Numbers

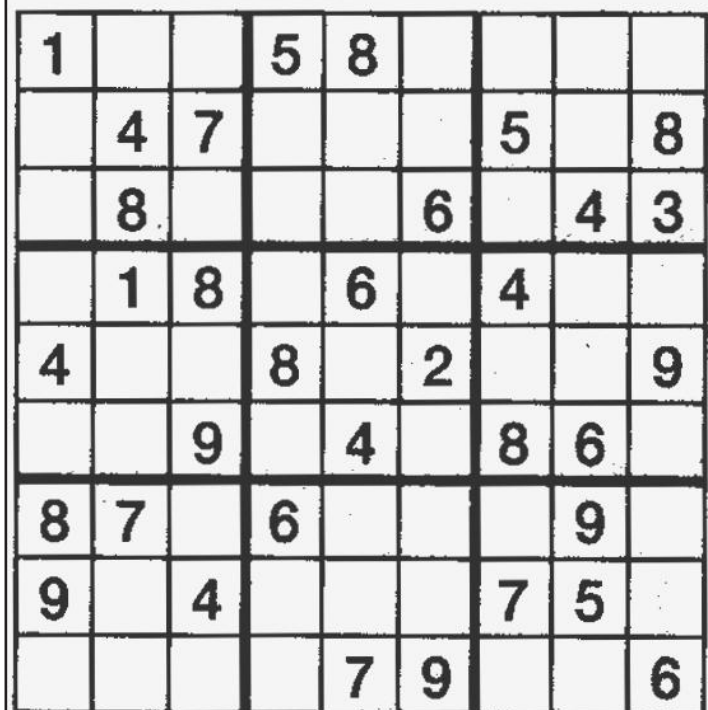
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

9	8	2	6	7	4	1	3	5
1	5	7	8	2	3	4	9	6
4	6	3	1	5	9	2	7	8
5	9	8	7	4	1	6	2	3
6	7	1	2	3	8	9	5	4
2	3	4	5	9	6	8	1	7
3	4	6	9	1	7	5	8	2
8	1	5	3	6	2	7	4	9
7	2	9	4	8	5	3	6	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.

Finance

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Europe finally adopts landmark finance curbs

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) - Europe finally voted through landmark curbs yesterday to clamp down on its finance industry just as fears returned that Ireland, like Greece, was starting down bankruptcy.

The crossing of the final political hurdle at the European parliament marks the end of fierce negotiations stretching back to February 2009, after the US financial meltdown unleashed the world's worst recession since the 1930s.

Lawmakers in Strasbourg gave their blessing after finance ministers from the 27 European Union member states sealed final agreement on September 7 following months of bickering characterized as a fight between the City of London and Brussels, under the bidding of France and Germany.

"This new legislation will create a watchdog able to bark and -- if necessary -- to bite," said parliamentary speaker Jerzy Buzek.

In a nutshell, the package of laws will create four new pan-European bodies that are expected eventually to seize regulatory power over the dizzy heights of the finance industry.

That would cover everything from High Street banks to the riskiest of high-stakes bets responsible for felling some of Wall Street's biggest names.

The curbs will come into being as of January 1, 2011, with the head of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt presiding for the first five years over a politically pivotal European Systemic Risk Board.

This will be charged with spotting threats to the continent's economic wellbeing before they hit home.

Three sector-specific bodies, essentially covering banks, insurance and stocks -- respectively based in London, Frankfurt and Paris -- will then acquire powers to order national bodies or companies to change the way they do business.

Industry figures fear their powers will grow incrementally, although a series of political fixes have been worked in to try and prevent ugly cross-border rows over what represents an emergency.

Some 80 percent of Europe's finance industry is based in London, rivalled only on a global scale by New York and Hong Kong.

Blockbuster expected to file Chapter 11

WILMINGTON, Delaware - Blockbuster Inc is preparing to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy within the next few days, a source familiar with the video rental chain's plans said yesterday.

The Dallas-based retailer said earlier this year it would close nearly 10 percent of its stores. Customers have moved away from renting films through its outlets in favor of online services such as Netflix.

It is carrying some \$900 million of debt, according to filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

European stocks hit by Fed comments, bank sector

LONDON, England (AFP) - European stock exchanges wilted yesterday, undermined by a downbeat Fed analysis of the US economy, a weakening dollar and negative news from two major European banks.

European investors continued to fret over a Federal Reserve assessment on Tuesday that the US recovery had slowed, as well as the Fed's assertion it was prepared to continue bond purchases to prevent the onset of a fresh economic decline.

The comments weighed on the dollar, helped send gold to record highs above 1,296 dollars an ounce, and boosted the euro.

"When the US central bank says that no matter what happens it will always be there, it weakens the dollar," said analyst Frederic Rozier of Meeschaert Gestion Privee.

The sliding dollar and strengthening euro depressed sentiment in Europe, as the trend threatens to increase the price of European exports, making them less competitive.

The London FTSE 100 index shed 0.44 percent to close at 5,551.91 points. There

were sharper falls in Paris, where the CAC 40 gave up 1.30 percent to finish at 3,735.05, and in Frankfurt, where the DAX lost 1.08 percent to end the day at 6,208.35.

Jitters about the upcoming earnings season also dampened confidence.

"The risk premium in equities is high because the uncertainty about global economic conditions is high," said Patrick O'Hare of Briefing.com.

European investors in addition had to contend with a profit warning from Germany's Deutsche Bank and the aftermath of the replacement of Alessandro Profumo as chief executive at Italy's UniCredit bank.

In Frankfurt, Deutsche Bank, Germany's biggest lender, plunged 8.35 percent after it issued a profit warning and launched a rights issue aimed at funding its takeover of Postbank.

Deutsche Bank shareholders are being asked to buy 10.2 billion euros (13.7 billion dollars) of shares in a record capital increase to pay for the purchase of up to 30.6 percent of the shares in Postbank.

Deutsche Bank already owns nearly 30 percent of Postbank, which has Germany's biggest retail bank network, a attractive source of earnings next to Deutsche Bank's own investment bank activities.

Deutsche Bank warned Tuesday that its third quarter earnings would be materially affected by its purchase of the Postbank shares, for which it will pay 25 euros each.

In Milan, where stocks fell 1.81 percent, the day's big loser was UniCredit, which shed 4.0 percent on lingering uncertainties over its strategy after the departure of Profumo, sparked by a shareholder rebellion over his management style, poor earnings and controversial dealings with Libyan investors.

Elsewhere in Europe there were declines of 1.93 percent in Madrid and 1.18 percent on the Swiss Market Index.

In Asian trade yesterday, markets saw mixed fortunes as the yen soared against the dollar despite Tokyo's recent efforts to weaken the Japanese unit.

As a result, Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei index slipped 0.37 percent

Euro soars as US outlook drags dollar down

LONDON, England (AFP) - The euro soared to five-month highs against the dollar yesterday as the US currency was dragged down by a less than inspiring assessment of the US economy issued by the Federal Reserve.

In late afternoon trade, the euro rallied to 1.3383 dollars from 1.3263 dollars late on Tuesday in New York, with the European single currency also supported by another successful sale of state bonds by Portugal.

Against the Japanese currency, the dollar dropped to 84.37 yen from 85.02 yen on Tuesday. The euro rose to 112.92 yen from 112.76 yen earlier.

The price of gold rose to 1,293.50 dollars per ounce from 1,275 dollars on Tuesday -- as investors rushed to buy up the safe-haven metal.

"A combination of a weakening dollar and the Federal Reserve indicating it may loosen monetary policy further is pushing gold to record highs," ETX Capital senior trader Manoj Ladwa told AFP.

"While some are calling for it to run out of steam around the 1,300-dollar level, the momentum still clearly remains to

the upside."

The Federal Reserve set the tone for the markets after it said it was prepared to take new stimulus measures if necessary while leaving interest rates at record lows.

It said it would "continue to monitor the economic outlook and financial developments and is prepared to provide additional accommodation if needed to support the economic recovery."

Those measures would likely include buying treasury bonds, causing the market to brace for further dollar losses.

The Fed comments will likely keep the dollar weak in the near-term, with US interest rates under pressure, analysts said.

"The dollar is being dumped as the suggested credit easing spawned expectations of lower interest rates" in the United States, said Daisuke Karakama, market economist at Mizuho Corporate Bank.

Analyst Rajesh Patel at trading firm Spread Co said: "Traders seemed to focus on the words 'prepared to provide additional accommodation if needed to support the economic recovery' in the statement and took it that the Fed

are ready to loosen monetary policy further in the months ahead.

"This set off a plunge in the dollar as it collapsed versus the euro, Swiss franc, Australian dollar and yen, to name but a few."

Elsewhere yesterday, Portugal raised 750 million euros (1.0 billion dollars) from the sale of 4- and 10-year government bonds.

It comes a day after fellow eurozone members Ireland, Greece and Spain all enjoyed successful bond issues, which dampened fears of a new debt crisis.

The British pound was mixed meanwhile as minutes of the last Bank of England monetary policy meeting indicated that the central bank could be close to fresh stimulus measures of its own.

In London yesterday, the euro changed hands at 1.3383 dollars against 1.3263 dollars late in New York on Tuesday, at 112.92 yen (112.76), 0.8556 pounds (0.8488) and 1.3202 Swiss francs (1.3213).

The dollar stood at 84.37 yen (85.02) and 0.9865 Swiss francs (0.9960).

The pound was at 1.5641 dollars (1.5624).

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

L	A	D	D	S	A	D	A	T	B	I	D	E		
O	L	I	O	O	R	A	L	E	E	G	A	L		
B	O	O	N	E	C	O	M	P	A	N	I	O	N	S
E	U	R	A	S	I	A	N	A	G	R	E	E		
T	S	A	R	L	A	M	E							
D	A	N	I	E	L	T	O	G	A	T	R	A		
I	D	E	O		T	A	R	O	T	H	A	L		
T	H	U	N	D	E	R	I	N	G	H	E	A	R	D
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M	O	L	D		E	S	T	O	P		P	O	R	E

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Linda's Pancakes and Pizza place, delicious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner



Plain Pancake

Linda's Pancake and Pizza place, located at Palm Beach 6D, Noord (on the right side of Valero gas station) offers patrons the most delicious Dutch pancakes and pizza's with a Dutch twist.

Open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and only five minutes away from the high-rise resorts, Linda's is the perfect eatery for the whole family.

Seeing the popularity of this quaint small eatery, THE MORNING NEWS decided it was time to find out just

pizza is just mmm... good. The saté... out of this world!"

Besides the original plain pancake, Linda's specialty is pancakes with walnuts, Brie and honey; pancakes with banana and mango or a Dutch favorite: pancake with apple and bacon.

All their pizzas are made with Dutch Gouda cheese and different toppings making it richer in taste.

When it comes to saté, one has to say that the secret is in



Olgita, Ilhan and Iyanla enjoying a scrumptious meal

how good Linda's really is, by sending out a team of taste testers.

Olgita, joined by her two kids ordered a little of everything while the kids roamed around freely, enjoying the afternoon.

The meal started out with Linda's original plain - to die for - Dutch pancakes, followed by pizza, where instead of using mozzarella Linda has created a unique twist to the traditional Italian dish by using Dutch Gouda cheese. Adding a local favorite which could not stay off the table they also sampled the delicious saté (chicken, pork or beef on a wooden skewer) with peanut sauce (Indonesian influence on local food). For the finish the team (adults only) had one cup of Linda's delicious Espresso.

The team had this to say: "Superb! There are no words to describe just how delicious the pancakes are and the

the sauce. Not everybody can make that perfect peanut sauce, but Linda, being an expert in the kitchen has cooked up one of the finest peanut sauces on the island, making this original Indonesian dish extra special.

If you want a specially prepared pancake or pizza, Linda is right there -- just for you -- in her kitchen.

"For those who are allergic to gluten I have a special pancake mix, gluten free," Linda stated to THE MORNING NEWS team.

Linda's Pancakes and Pizza also offers fried eggs and homemade soups.

"We also serve American coffee," Linda concluded.

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On October 8th & 9th, 2010

Marcus Miller, invited to come to Aruba's Jazz Festival

The fourth Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival will take place on October 8 and 9, with a warm-up preceding the festival. Held at Cas di Cultura, as is customary, the event has grown to full adulthood through the years. This means that world-class performers can be attracted to the event and thus the 2010 edition will be filled with the names of enormously talented artists. Names like Issac Delgado, the salsa virtuoso, Tizer featuring Karen Briggs, Marcus Miller, Swing Design, Red Fulka with Roel Calister will be the festival's headliners without contest.

Following a short bio of Marcus Miller.

Bassist Marcus Miller is best-known for working with trumpeter Miles Davis, singer Luther Vandross and saxophonist David Sanborn, but his solo career is not to be sneezed at either. This all-round wizard musician is playing the keyboards, saxophone and guitar as well as the clarinet. Style, soul and intense professionalism are the characteristics of this unusually talented performer, who has been at the top of his game for the past three decades. Marcus Miller has won numerous Grammy Awards as a producer.

William Henry Marcus Miller was born in Brooklyn,



New York on June 14, 1959. Coming from a musical family, Marcus began writing songs at an early age and he became a top call session musician in his early twenties. In the late '70's he was a member of the Saturday Night Live band and he toured in Europe and Japan. By now, Miller's touch on the bass can be heard on more than 500 albums, among them those by Herbie Hancock, Mariah Carey, Frank Sinatra, Chaka Khan, Elton John, Dr. John and Aretha Franklin, just to name a few top-notch artists.

Miller's expertise did not stop at being a session musician and a solo artist: he has been doing a lot of arranging and producing and has even eased into writing scores for movies. Nowadays he is the bandleader of his own band, appealing to wide audiences with his jazz-based music

Experts bite back at bedbug infestations

CHICAGO, Illinois (AFP) – Killing a single bedbug can be as easy as rolling on top of it in your sleep. Ridding a home or hotel of its siblings and cousins on the other hand, is an exhausting and expensive task.

Nearly eliminated a few decades ago, bedbugs have returned to America with a vengeance.

They've overtaken college dorms, military barracks, apartment complexes, office buildings and even forced the closure of Nike's flagship New York store on Monday.

And they are big business: \$258 million were spent battling them in the United States last year, according to the National Pest Management Association.

Leading experts gathered in a Chicago suburb on Tuesday for a two-day summit on eradicating the hardy critters, which can live a year without feeding and like to explore at night, often catching rides to new homes in luggage, handbags and clothing.

"It's easy to come in and kill bedbugs with insecticide, but it's much harder to get to the point where you can be confident that they're gone," Kenneth Haynes, an entomologist with the University of Kentucky, told AFP.

Bedbugs are very good at hiding, he explained, and the problem is finding a poison which is powerful enough to kill all the bugs and their eggs but safe enough to be used indoors.

The summit's showroom was filled with potential solutions: massive room heaters to bake the bugs, carbon dioxide sprayers to freeze the bugs, high powered steamers to boil the bugs, plastic moats and barriers to block the bugs from getting into beds, tight-fitting mattress protectors, and even specially-trained dogs to sniff out their hiding spots.



Two live bedbugs

"There's so much bedbug hysteria and 75 percent of it is well-founded," said David James, whose company Pack-tite sells portable heating chambers designed to kill any critters that crawl into luggage or non-washable possessions like books and shoes.

"They're so bad out there and they're so hard to kill," James said as he manned a busy display at the sold-out show.

"I've had people call me and say they've gone bankrupt trying to get rid of them because they keep replacing their clothes and furniture."

There is unfortunately no silver bullet for eradicating bed bugs, said Phillip Cooper, president of BedBug Central, a for-profit educational organization which hosted the conference.

"Nothing works on its own," said Cooper, who also runs a pest-control company founded by his father in 1955.

The best thing to do is try to keep bed bugs out of your home by carefully inspecting hotel rooms, washing all clothes taken on a trip in hot water and vacuuming or treating your luggage.

If you end up picking up the critters at work, a movie theatre, church or work, hope that

you find them quick and call a professional right away.

A moderate infestation can be eradicated with a single, properly-applied treatment of insecticide, Cooper said. But serious infestations can require several treatments and a multi-prong approach costing thousands of dollars.

One way large hotel and apartment complexes are cutting their costs is hiring sniffer dogs to pinpoint exactly which units are affected and find the nests.

A property manager at a large apartment complex outside Chicago, Shellie Beno, got into the business last year after residents started bringing her bags filled with bedbugs.

Pest controllers would spend hours tearing an apartment apart looking for nests. Her three dogs can search a typical unit in about five to seven minutes. And their noses can sniff out places people can't, like behind the walls.

Another advantage is the dogs are much less intrusive and residents don't have to worry that their neighbors will know they've got bugs.

"Would you rather have me going through your dresser drawers or my dogs?" said her Detective Bedbug partner David Bohannon.

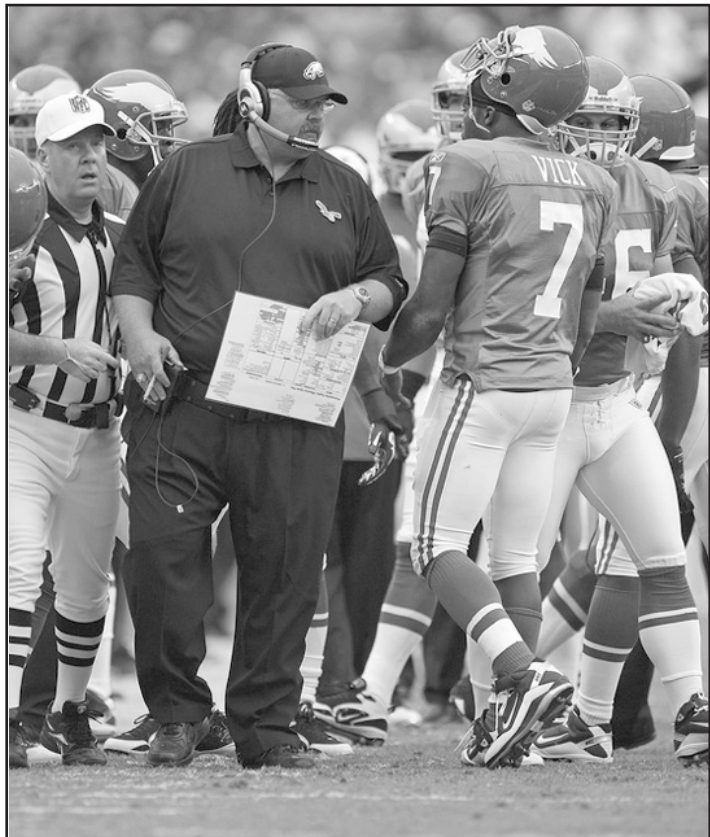
Fish carcasses from massive fish kill



Fish carcasses from a massive fish kill in the Bay Jimmy area of Plaquemines Parish are pictured in this handout photograph taken on September 16, 2010 and released on September 17.

The cause of the fish kill has not yet been determined, but the fish were discovered in an area that was heavily impacted by oil from the BP oil spill. Among the fish dead were pogie fish, redbait, shrimp, crabs and freshwater eels

Vick earns starting role with Philadelphia Eagles



Michael Vick #7 of the Philadelphia Eagles talks with head coach Andy Reid during a game

PHILADELPHIA (AFP) — The Philadelphia Eagles have named Michael Vick the National Football League team's starting quarterback, coach Andy Reid announced, a day

after he announced he would go back to Kevin Kolb.

Vick takes over as the Eagles' No. 1 quarterback over rising star Kevin Kolb who has been relegated to the

backup role.

Reid said the decision has nothing to do with how Kolb is performing on the field and everything to do with how Vick has raised the team's level of play in the past couple of weeks.

Vick is considered the greatest scrambling quarterback in NFL history, but he won the job over Kolb by demonstrating he no longer has a run-first mentality.

"When someone is playing at the level Michael Vick is playing, you have to give him an opportunity," Reid said. "This isn't about Kevin Kolb's play. You're talking about Michael Vick as one the best quarterbacks in the NFL right now."

Kolb missed the last six quarters because of a concussion, and Vick played well in stepping into the role. Kolb has been cleared to practice but Reid said he is not sitting out because of the head injury.

"Kevin is fine. It's not an injury-related issue," Reid said. "It's not about judging him. He's going to be a championship-calibre quarterback."

Lunn: Canada hopes to participate in Commonwealth Games

OTTAWA (AFP) — Canada intends to participate in New Delhi's Commonwealth Games, but may reconsider if concerns over safety and cleanliness at the athletes' village are not addressed, Sports Minister Gary Lunn said Wednesday.

Two Canadian archers, including former world champion Dietmar Trillus, have already withdrawn from the competition, prompting fears more could follow.

Lunn told public broadcaster CBC: "There are no discussions that we're not participating and no discussions at any level of pulling out or not attending." But "it's possible" that could change, he added.

"We want to support our

athletes and cheer them on," Lunn said, but "we have serious concerns."

The sports minister said he has been in contact with the head of the Commonwealth Games and has been briefed daily on security for the Games by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which is working closely with Indian authorities.

Martha Deacon, Canada's chef de mission for the 2010 Commonwealth Games, had said earlier that Canada is "reviewing" whether or not to send athletes to the Games after Canadian delegates scouted the athletes' village and expressed "great concern about comfort, safety and cleanliness."

The facility needs "a good

deep, deep cleaning," she commented. "There are some issues around plumbing and electricity that also need to be addressed in the residences."

As things stand, "we wouldn't put (Canadian athletes) in the village," she said, adding that Canadian athletes' departures for the Games had been delayed over the concerns.

However, "we are cautiously optimistic that with the work being done ... we will be able to receive athletes (at the facilities on time) in two or three days," she said.

Some nations, notably England and Scotland, have reserved decisions about going, while several top athletes have already announced they will not participate in the Games after the collapse of a stadium roof.

The Games are scheduled to start in 11 days.

Trillus, 52, who won a gold medal in the men's compound bow in Lausanne, Switzerland in 2008, said he arrived at his decision to withdraw from the competition because the athletes' village was "far from finished and extremely unsanitary" and "the food is iffy at best."




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Liriano will open playoffs for Twins

MINNEAPOLIS, September 22, 2010 (AFP) — Twins hurler Francisco Liriano will get the start when Minnesota open their American League playoff campaign next month, manager Ron Gardenhire said Wednesday.

"He's been winging it pretty good," Gardenhire said before the Twins hosted Cleveland.

Liriano is 14-8 with a 3.44 ERA in 29 starts, and notched six wins in his last 10 starts.

The left-hander will get six days' rest between his final regular-season start and the playoff opener.

The Twins clinched their second straight American League Central division title on Tuesday.

Last year Minnesota had to win a tiebreaking playoff to claim the division title. By punching their playoff ticket relatively early, they gave themselves the luxury of setting up their pitching rotation.

Carl Pavano is scheduled to take the mound for game two followed by Brian Duensing.

If Minnesota opt for a four-man rotation, Nick Blackburn would be the fourth starter.

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Phinney opts for BMC, not Armstrong's RadioShack



SANTA ROSA (AFP) - Two-time cycling pursuit world champion Taylor Phinney has

Pats lose running back Faulk for season



FOXBORO, Massachusetts (AFP) - Patriots running back Kevin Faulk said Wednesday that he'll miss the remainder of the NFL season with a torn knee ligament.

Faulk said he will have surgery to repair the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, which was damaged in Sunday's 28-14 defeat at the New York Jets.

Without him the Patriots will rely on four remaining running backs - Fred Taylor, Sammy Morris, BenJarvus Green-Ellis and Danny Woodhead.

signed to ride for BMC Racing in 2011, opting to join the Swiss-US team after riding for Lance Armstrong's RadioShack this season.

Phinney, 20, started the 2010 season riding for seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong's Trek-Livestrong development squad.

He was promoted to ride for Armstrong's RadioShack team in August.

However, Phinney said he thought he would be a good fit on a BMC team that includes Australian Cadel Evans, fellow American George Hincapie and Italian Alessandro Ballan.

"They have a team with a lot of younger guys mixed with veteran riders and team leaders like Evans, Hincapie and Ballan. It seemed like the right fit for me," Phinney said in a release posted on the team's website.

"BMC also makes fast bikes. I'm excited to see what they can make for me on the track."

BMC Racing team president Jim Ochowicz called it an "extraordinary opportunity" to sign a cyclist who excels on the track and is gaining experience in road racing.

On Saturday Phinney won the US national time trial title by .14 seconds.

This year he won four stages and the overall title of the Olympia Tour in Holland and a second straight Paris-Roubaix Espoirs.

Phinney, who is the son of two-time Tour de France stage winner Davis Phinney and Olympic gold and world champion cyclist Connie Carpenter, was recently named to the US under-23 squad for the cycling world championships.

K-Rod in court on text-message charges



NEW YORK (AFP) - Mets hurler Francisco Rodriguez was formally charged with criminal contempt Wednesday for a barrage of text messages to his girlfriend, whose father he was accused of assaulting.

Rodriguez, who bombarded Daian Pena with dozens of text messages asking for forgiveness, was under a restraining order barring him from contacting her. Rodriguez posted the 7,500-dollar bail almost immediately and left Queens court.

A new order of protection was issued barring him from contacting Pena.

Rodriguez, 28, was accused in August of grabbing Pena's father - 53-year-old Carlos Pena, from a Citi Field family lounge - striking him in the face and banging his head against a wall.

The pitcher had been told to stay away from Carlos Pena and his daughter.

However, a week after he appeared in court he sent her two text messages, eventually sending her 56.

Prosecutor Scott Kessler said Rodriguez knew he wasn't supposed to contact Pena, and cited an earlier incident in which the player was ac-

cused of assaulting Daian Pena in Venezuela.

"He's not naive or loving. He's manipulative and controlling," Kessler said.

Kessler said Pena didn't respond to the messages, which became increasingly angry.

If Rodriguez violates the latest restraining order, he could be jailed.

Rodriguez had 25 saves this season with a 2.24 ERA this season.

After the incident at the ballpark in August he was

China to prep for Asiad in Florida

NEW YORK (AFP) - China's national baseball team will play in the Florida Instructional League to prepare for the Asian Games in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou in November.

Major League Baseball said Wednesday that 26 Chinese players will train at Vero Beach sports village through October 24.

China will play 12 exhibitions against instructional league teams, which are comprised of young Major League prospects still refining their skills.

China will be led by a pair

suspended by the team for two days without pay.

He apologized to fans, but it emerged that he had torn a ligament in the thumb of his pitching hand during the altercation and required season-ending surgery.

The incident has already cost Rodriguez some 3.1 million dollars.

The Mets have exercised their contractual right to convert the rest of his 37 million-dollar, three-year deal to non-guaranteed, meaning they could try to avoid paying most of what remains on it.

The move also frees the Mets to release Rodriguez prior to next season.

The players' union has filed a grievance protesting how the team has handled the case.

Rodriguez earned his nickname of 'K' for the number of strikeouts he achieves; 'K' is scorecard shorthand for striking out an opponent.

of former major leaguers, with Tom Lawless as coach and Scott McGregor as pitching coach. Lawless was a coach for China in 2007-08.

Major League Baseball, which established MLB China and opened an MLB office in Beijing in January 2007, has hosted the China team in either autumn instructional league, minor league spring training or both each year since 2003.

In recent years China has made a push to improve in baseball, where it has traditionally been outstripped by Asian rivals Taiwan, Japan and South Korea.

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Mickelson upbeat going into Tour Championship defence

ATLANTA, Georgia (AFP) — Phil Mickelson goes into the US PGA Tour Championship today as defending champion, but he'll need more than a victory to pocket the 10 million-dollar bonus on offer to the FedEx Cup playoff series winner.

The top five in the FedEx Cup standings - led by Matt Kuchar - are best-placed to claim the bonus, and even if Mickelson can become the first player to win back-to-back Tour Championships he would need help from them to claim the big prize.

"I haven't played well in the first three FedExCup events, and so you have to have some value to those events," Mickelson said. "You can't have it all just ... come down to one event. I guess you could, but I haven't played well enough in the first three events."

Mickelson missed the cut in the first playoffs event and tied for 25th at the next before finishing equal eighth in the BMW Championship.

"If I had played halfway



decent, I would be in a position to control my own destiny. I started out third or fourth (in the standings), started out in good position, but because of my play, I am where I'm at."

Once again this week Mickelson also has a chance to supplant Tiger Woods atop the world rankings.

Woods, who has struggled on the course this year while coping with highly publicized personal travails off the

course, didn't even qualify for the Tour Championship.

A victory or a three-way tie for second would allow Mickelson to move to number one for the first time in his career.

"I'd love to take advantage of the opportunity," he said. "I don't follow the ranking points and so forth, but I know that I've had multiple opportunities for months, and I haven't played well enough to do it. Hopefully I do this week."

While the highpoint of Mickelson's season came back in April, with an emotional Masters victory, Kuchar has displayed strong form all year.

His 11 top 10 finishes are the most on the PGA Tour this year.

He won the Barclays, the first event of the playoffs, moving atop the PGA Tour money list for the first time and setting up his first appearance in the Tour Championship.

He is headed toward his first Ryder Cup, and has moved to 10th in the world rankings.

For Kuchar, once a celebrated amateur player at Georgia Tech University, capping the season at East Lake in suburban Atlanta is a special opportunity.

"It's definitely been a neat progression," Kuchar said. "I think I was definitely well-celebrated as an amateur, and it's fun to take the steps forward. ... To make those steps, it's a very rewarding feeling."

Kuchar and the rest of the top five in the standings - Dustin Johnson, Charley Hoffman, Steve Stricker and England's Paul Casey - can all claim the 10 million-dollar bonus with a victory.

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